

during COVID, the post office kept delivering goods and supplies and medicines across the economy. They are public servants of the highest order.

So it is a great day for our postal workers, and it is a great day for the American people.

The bill has been in the works for over a decade, and today, after so much work, we are all thrilled to have finally gotten it done.

VOTE ON H.R. 3076

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The bill having been read the third time, the question is, Shall the bill pass?

Mr. SCHUMER. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. HAGERTY) and the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE).

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 79, nays 19, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 71 Leg.]

YEAS—79

Baldwin	Graham	Padilla
Barrasso	Grassley	Peters
Bennet	Hassan	Portman
Blumenthal	Hawley	Reed
Blunt	Heinrich	Rosen
Booker	Hickenlooper	Rounds
Boozman	Hirono	Sanders
Brown	Hoeven	Schatz
Burr	Kaine	Schumer
Cantwell	Kelly	Shaheen
Capito	Kennedy	Sinema
Cardin	King	Smith
Carper	Klobuchar	Stabenow
Casey	Leahy	Sullivan
Cassidy	Lujan	Tester
Collins	Lummis	Thune
Coons	Manchin	Tillis
Cortez Masto	Markey	Van Hollen
Cotton	Marshall	Warner
Cramer	McConnell	Warnock
Daines	Menendez	Warren
Duckworth	Merkley	Whitehouse
Durbin	Moran	Wicker
Ernst	Murkowski	Wyden
Feinstein	Murphy	Young
Fischer	Murray	
Gillibrand	Ossoff	

NAYS—19

Blackburn	Lankford	Scott (FL)
Braun	Lee	Scott (SC)
Cornyn	Paul	Shelby
Crapo	Risch	Toomey
Cruz	Romney	Tuberville
Hyde-Smith	Rubio	
Johnson	Sasse	

NOT VOTING—2

Hagerty Inhofe

The bill (H.R. 3076) was passed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate will proceed to executive session.

There will now be 2 minutes of debate equally divided.

The Senator from Michigan.

CLOTURE MOTION WITHDRAWN

Mr. PETERS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the cloture

motion on the Gonzalez nomination be withdrawn.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Is there objection?

Not hearing an objection, it is withdrawn.

The cloture motion, on the nomination of Ed Gonzalez, of Texas, to be an Assistant Secretary of Homeland Security, was withdrawn.

The PRESIDING OFFICER.

Who yields time?

Mr. SCHUMER. We yield back all time, Mr. President.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. All time is yielded back.

CLOTURE MOTION

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Pursuant to rule XXII, the Chair lays before the Senate the pending cloture motion, which the clerk will state.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 547, Maria L. Pagan, of Puerto Rico, to be a Deputy United States Trade Representative (Geneva Office), with the rank of Ambassador.

Charles E. Schumer, Alex Padilla, Christopher Murphy, Edward J. Markey, Gary C. Peters, Brian Schatz, Jack Reed, Tammy Duckworth, John W. Hickenlooper, Sheldon Whitehouse, Tim Kaine, Richard Blumenthal, Christopher A. Coons, Margaret Wood Hassan, Patrick J. Leahy, Debbie Stabenow.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. By unanimous consent, the mandatory quorum call has been waived.

The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on the nomination of Maria L. Pagan, of Puerto Rico, to be a Deputy United States Trade Representative (Geneva Office), with the rank of Ambassador shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) is necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. HAGERTY) and the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE).

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 78, nays 19, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 72 Ex.]

YEAS—78

Baldwin	Carper	Durbin
Barrasso	Casey	Ernst
Bennet	Cassidy	Feinstein
Blumenthal	Collins	Fischer
Blunt	Coons	Gillibrand
Booker	Cornyn	Graham
Brown	Cortez Masto	Grassley
Burr	Cramer	Hassan
Cantwell	Crapo	Heinrich
Capito	Daines	Hickenlooper
Cardin	Duckworth	Hirono

Hoeven	Murphy	Sinema
Kaine	Murray	Smith
Kelly	Ossoff	Stabenow
Kennedy	Padilla	Tester
King	Peters	Thune
Klobuchar	Portman	Tillis
Leahy	Reed	Toomey
Lujan	Risch	Van Hollen
Manchin	Romney	Warner
Markey	Rosen	Warnock
McConnell	Rounds	Warren
Menendez	Sasse	Whitehouse
Merkley	Schatz	Wicker
Moran	Schumer	Wyden
Murkowski	Shaheen	Young

NAYS—19

Blackburn	Johnson	Scott (FL)
Boozman	Lankford	Scott (SC)
Braun	Lee	Shelby
Cotton	Lummis	Sullivan
Cruz	Marshall	Tuberville
Hawley	Paul	
Hyde-Smith	Rubio	

NOT VOTING—3

Hagerty Inhofe Sanders

(Mr. KING assumed the Chair.)

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. HASSAN). On this vote, the yeas are 78 and the nays are 19.

The motion is agreed to.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Maria L. Pagan, of Puerto Rico, to be a Deputy United States Trade Representative (Geneva Office), with the rank of Ambassador.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Pennsylvania.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST—EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. CASEY. Madam President, I am here today for two purposes. I will start with the first.

The first is to rise in support of advancing the nomination of Elizabeth Watson to serve as the Assistant Secretary for Congressional and Intergovernmental Affairs at the Department of Labor.

Ms. Watson is a highly qualified nominee who was nominated in April of last year, almost a year ago now. She has spent most of her career advocating for workers through labor and economic policy.

Ms. Watson previously served as labor policy director and chief labor counsel on the House Committee on Education and Labor. Given her labor expertise and commitment to public service, she would be an enormous asset to the Department of Labor.

It is past due that the Senate confirm her nomination.

Ms. Watson is one of many excellent pro-worker nominees that have been put forward by the Biden-Harris administration.

Working families and unions built the American middle class, and working families and unions helped to make the Nation what it is today—the strongest, most powerful nation in the world.

Every worker in America deserves to be paid a living wage and treated with

dignity and respect. Over the past few decades, corporations have worked to undermine and weaken workers' fundamental rights to organize and collectively bargain. We should, for example, pass the PRO Act, which would safeguard and strengthen workers' fundamental right to organize and ensure that workers are able to decide whether or not to join a union through a fair process.

It would help restore fairness to an economy that has been rigged against workers for too long. We owe it to workers and families to create an economy that works for them, not for corporate interests. Pro-worker nominees, like Elizabeth Watson, will help us realize this goal. The Senate should advance her nomination.

So I ask unanimous consent that the Senate consider the following nomination: Calendar No. 687, Elizabeth Schoff Watson, of Maryland, to be an Assistant Secretary of Labor; that the nomination be confirmed and the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate; that no further motions be in order to the nomination; that any related statements be printed in the RECORD; and that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

The Senator from Indiana.

Mr. BRAUN. Reserving the right to object, the Assistant Secretary of Labor for Congressional and Intergovernmental Affairs works closely with congressional leaders and staff on a variety of issues, including legislative proposals, hearings, briefings, requests for information, and general topics. It is essential that the nominee is willing to work with both Democrats and Republicans in a bipartisan fashion.

Elizabeth Watson is currently the executive director of the Congressional Progressive Caucus Center—director of the Congressional Progressive Caucus Center—hardly a springboard of bipartisanship.

During the previous administration, Ms. Watson retweeted posts such as “White supremacists don’t belong in the White House,” referring to President Trump.

Her past actions have cast doubt on her ability to be impartial and her willingness to work in a bipartisan manner.

My concerns with this nominee are not unique, and there are many other Members that have concerns as well. There should be a vote on this nominee.

Therefore, I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

STURDY ACT

Mr. CASEY. Madam President, I rise this evening to share the urgent need to pass a bipartisan bill, a piece of legislation we have been working on for years now that will save the lives of children.

Every year, emergency rooms across the country treat over 22,000 preventable injuries—22,000 preventable injuries—caused by falling furniture, like dressers or television sets. On average, roughly half—half—of those injured are children, and of the vast majority of those killed by furniture tip-overs, some 81 percent are children. Eighty-one percent of all those killed by furniture tip-overs are children.

The death of a child is an unspeakable loss. There is no way to calculate it, and if you haven’t lived through it, I don’t think any of us can understand what some families have lived through. Yet in America, the most powerful Nation on the Earth, in less than 20 years, more than 460 children have been killed by these furniture tip-overs, and that number is the reported fatality number.

Compounding the grief and loss that these families experience is the fact that these deaths might have been prevented.

The answer here is pretty simple: mandatory stability standards that would make our homes safer for our children. For years now, Senator KLOBUCHAR, Senator BLUMENTHAL, Senator COTTON, and I have led a bipartisan effort to pass the STURDY Act.

Here is what all of the letters in that acronym stand for: The Stop Tip-overs of Unstable, Risky Dressers on Youth. We call it the STURDY Act.

The STURDY Act would require the Consumer Product Safety Commission to create a mandatory stability standard for furniture. That is all it does. It would create a mandatory stability standard. It would require companies to ensure their products are tested for safety and stability before being sold. It is a simple, commonsense requirement that will save the lives of children and prevent injuries.

Families in Pennsylvania and across the Nation have been waiting too long for the Senate to act. There are families like the Lamberts and the Collases who have experienced every parent’s worst nightmare—the loss of a child. These families have given my staff permission for me to share their stories tonight on the Senate floor. These are two stories I will start with.

You can see on my left, Katie Lambert.

Katie Lambert, in 2005, was 3 years old, just 3 years old. Her mom Judy describes her as “everything a three-year-old child should be—full of love and spontaneity.”

Katie loved Thomas the Tank Engine; she loved Buzz Lightyear; and, of course, she loved her older brothers.

Katie’s family had just moved into their new home in Huntingdon Valley, PA, in Southeastern Pennsylvania. One day, Katie was playing in her room while her mom painted the room next-door. Suddenly, Judy heard an “awful crash” as she described it. Judy ran into the room to find 3-year-old Katie crushed beneath a tall, mirrored wardrobe. The wardrobe had been on carpet and was unstable.

Judy said:

While we don’t know what Katie was doing, she was probably dancing and watching herself in the mirrors. She may have bumped up against it or tried to open one of the doors or maybe the vibration of her dancing in the room was just enough to cause it to become unstable and fall forward on her.

That is what her mom Judy said.

You can see in this photograph a beautiful little child, Katie Lambert, who died on that day. As her mom Judy held her, waiting for an ambulance to arrive, Katie took her last breath. She would have been 21 years old this year, and Judy wonders what she would be like today. What would she look like as a young woman? What college would she have chosen and what career path? Would she like spicy food like her brothers do?

Judy Lambert wanted me to share a message today, and it is quoted right here on this poster:

Please, do everything you can to ensure that no other family suffers the pain we do.

So said a mom about what we should do when we think of this child.

Then, Judy went on to say:

I am begging you to pass the STURDY Act now.

We should listen to her words and act.

The second child I will talk about tonight is Curren Collas. Another family, the Collas family, experienced a similar tragedy in their home in West Chester, PA.

Curren was just 2 years old—2 years old—with blond hair and deep blue eyes that his mom Jackie described as “soulful.” Curren loved his cars. He would carefully display his collection of them in a perfect line.

In February of 2014, Jackie walked into Curren’s bedroom to wake him for the day. She discovered Curren’s five-drawer dresser had fallen on him. Curren was trapped between it and his bed. As she waited for an ambulance to arrive, Jackie tried to resuscitate Curren but was later told by the paramedics that he had no vital signs when they took over.

In the months after Curren’s death, Jackie would sometimes stumble on his toy cars, hidden around the house—reminders of her spirited son, Curren.

Obviously, Jackie and her family’s lives will never ever be the same.

Here is what she told us in memory of her son. She said:

Even if I live until 100, it’s going to be before Curren and after Curren.

Just two stories tell us all we need to know about why we have to pass this bill. We could tell a lot more from Pennsylvania and so many other States that are represented by those Senators I mentioned and represented by Senators from other States. There is no reason—no reason at all—for families to endure this unimaginable grief, but, tragically, families across the Nation share similar stories of losing children to these horrific furniture tipover accidents. You will hear more of their